

" § 143B-279.4. The Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources--Secretary; Deputy Secretaries.

(a) The Secretary of the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources shall be the head of the Department.

(b) The Secretary may appoint two Deputy Secretaries.

" § 143B-279.5. Biennial State of the Environment Report.

The Secretary of the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources shall report on the state of the environment to the General Assembly and the Environmental Review Commission no later than 1 January of each odd-numbered year beginning 1 January 1991.

The report shall include:

- (1) An identification and analysis of current environmental protection issues and problems within or affecting the State and its people;
- (2) Trends in the quality and use of North Carolina's air and water resources;
- (3) An inventory of areas of the State where air or water pollution is in evidence or may occur during the upcoming biennium;
- (4) Current efforts and resources allocated by the Department to correct identified pollution problems and an estimate, if necessary, of additional resources needed to study, identify, and implement solutions to solve potential problems;
- (5) Departmental goals and strategies to protect the natural resources of the State;
- (6) Any information requested by the General Assembly or the Environmental Review Commission;
- (7) Suggested legislation, if necessary; and
- (8) Any other information on the state of the environment the Secretary considers appropriate.

Other State agencies involved in protecting the State's natural resources and environment shall cooperate with the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources in preparing this report."

Sec. 4. Part 3 of Article 7 of Chapter 143B of the General Statutes is amended by adding the following new section:

" § 143B-279.6. Wildlife Resources Commission--transfer; independence preserved; appointment of Executive Director and employees.

The Wildlife Resources Commission, as established by Chapters 75A, 113, and 143 of the General Statutes and other applicable laws of this State, is hereby transferred to the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources by a Type II transfer as defined in G.S. 143A-6. The Wildlife Resources Commission shall exercise all its prescribed statutory powers independently of the Secretary of